

16 May 1958

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MEMORANDUM FOR:

Assistant to the DCI

SUBJECT:

Eckert Correspondence

1. I have reviewed the attached correspondence from Mr. Eckert. I do not know him personally and can shed no light on his relative importance in Pennsylvania politics.

2. However, it is clear that Mr. Eckert is a follower of Henry George. The basic idea that Henry George had, which he developed during the last century in the United States, was that a tax on land value should be the sole source of public revenue. I take it that since Mr. Eckert speaks in his letter as follows: "the American economy is in need of fundamental reforms in order to fulfill its mission in free society," that what he is saying is that the fundamental reform needed is a single tax based on land.

3. In such circumstances it is fortunate that the Central Intelligence Agency has no responsibility in respect to the economy of the United States. I say this because the "single taxers" are as devoted to their ideas as the Communists to their's and are swayed neither by facts, logic, or perception.

4. I suggest, therefore, that the letter not be shown to the Director and that it be placed in the appropriate pigeon hole.

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Chief, Economic Research Area  
Office of Research and Reports

Enclosure.

Eckert Correspondence

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